Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-51. (canceled)

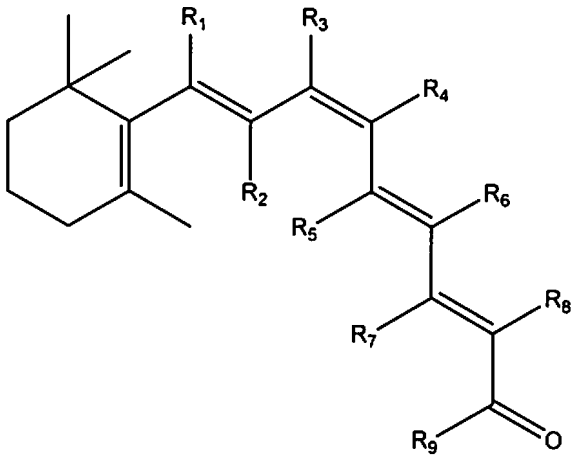
52. (New) A method of treating a human subject suffering loss of photoreceptor function due to expression of a mutant human opsin protein with a substitution of Proline 23 by Histidine (P23H mutant opsin protein), said method comprising:

treating loss of photoreceptor function in the human subject by administering to the subject an effective amount of a synthetic retinoid that is a derivative of 9-*cis*-retinal, wherein said derivative is capable of inducing the *in vivo* folding and stabilization of a P23H mutant opsin protein to form visual pigment after intraocular injection into an eye of a transgenic mouse expressing the human P23H mutant opsin protein,

wherein the human subject has autosomal dominant retinitis pigmentosa due to expression of the P23H mutant opsin protein.

53. (New) A method of treating a human subject suffering loss of photoreceptor function due to expression of a mutant human opsin protein with a substitution of Proline 23 by Histidine (P23H mutant opsin protein), said method comprising:

administering to the human subject an effective amount of a synthetic retinoid that is a derivative of 9-*cis*-retinal, wherein the synthetic retinoid has the structure:



(IIIb)

wherein each of R_1 to R_9 is independently selected from hydrogen, an alkyl or branched alkyl, cyclo-alkyl, halogen, a heteroatom, hydroxyl, or hydroxyalkyl, but if each of R_1, R_2, R_4, R_5, R_6, R_8, and R_9 is hydrogen, then R_3 and R_7 are not both methyl.

54. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein the synthetic retinoid is in a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

55. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein the synthetic retinoid is orally administered to the human subject.

56. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein the synthetic retinoid is locally administered to the human subject.

57. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein the synthetic retinoid is locally administered by eye drops.

58. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein the synthetic retinoid is locally administered by intraocular injection.

59. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein the synthetic retinoid is locally administered by periocular injection.

60. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein the subject endogenously forms rhodopsin, from opsin and endogenous 11-*cis*-retinal, as a visual pigment.

61. (New) he method of claim 56, wherein the subject endogenously forms rhodopsin, from opsin and endogenous 11-*cis*-retinal, as a visual pigment.

62. (New) The method of claim 52, further comprising identifying the subject as expressing a P23H mutant opsin protein before said administering.

63. (New) The method of claim 53, wherein the synthetic retinoid is in a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

64. (New) The method of claim 53, wherein the synthetic retinoid is orally administered to the human subject.

65. (New) The method of claim 53, wherein the synthetic retinoid is locally administered to the human subject.

66. (New) The method of claim 65, wherein the synthetic retinoid is locally administered by eye drops.

67. (New) The method of claim 65, wherein the synthetic retinoid is locally administered by intraocular injection.

68. (New) The method of claim 65, wherein the synthetic retinoid is locally administered by periocular injection.

69. (New) The method of claim 53, wherein the subject endogenously forms rhodopsin, from opsin and endogenous 11-*cis*-retinal, as a visual pigment.

70. (New) The method of claim 65, wherein the subject endogenously forms rhodopsin, from opsin and endogenous 11-*cis*-retinal, as a visual pigment.

71. (New) The method of claim 53, further comprising identifying the subject as expressing a P23H mutant opsin protein before said administering.